

Tentative Rulings for Wednesday, September 2, 2015 to be heard in Department 2,
Judge Barnes presiding

King v Ford Motor Company

Case No. 14C 0053

The motion to bifurcate the punitive damage claims and exclude any reference to defendant's profits, financial condition or net worth until the trier of fact has made a finding of liability and a finding by clear and convincing evidence that defendant acted with malice, oppression or fraud is granted. (Civ. Code §3295 (d).) This motion must be granted on application of any defendant. Plaintiff's opposition to the motion based on charts and graphs plaintiff seeks to introduce at the first phase of trial is speculative. This evidence is not before the court. From the general description given, evidence relating to Ford's goals and policies relative to a desire to reduce warranty costs, if found relevant and admissible, would not appear to be excluded from the first phase of trial by this motion.

There are no other tentative rulings. Consistent with California Rule of Court, rule 3.1308 (a)(2), no notice of intent to appear is required. If the non-prevailing party does not appear for hearing, the tentative ruling will become the order of the court. The prevailing party shall prepare an order for the court's signature.